Park Avenue Synagogue Bulletin
MAY 2008
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P.A.S. Celebrates Israel at 60!

Shabbat morning, May 3 | **Musical service** *featuring Cantor Meir Finklestein*
Sunday, May 4 | **Israel Parade Banner Workshop** | 9:00 am
Sunday, May 4 | **Israel at 60 Block Party** | 12:00-4:00 pm
Sunday, May 4 | **"Israel: A Celebration in Song"** | 4:00 pm
Wednesday, May 7 | *Screening of* **Beaufort** *(Academy Award nominated Israeli film)* | 7:00 pm
Sunday, June 1 | **Salute to Israel Parade**

"Should Israel give up land for peace?"

Israel at 60

In celebrating Israel Independence Day number 60, our thoughts turn to the burning question of the time: "Should Israel give up land for peace?"

Professor David Golinkin of the Schechter Institute in Jerusalem has written much on the subject of returning territories for the sake of peace. He presents the *halachic* arguments of both sides of the issue.

At the end of Rabbi Golinkin's paper he says the following, which includes the opinion of the former Sephardi Chief Rabbi of Israel:

> *The book of Numbers (33:53) states: "And you shall take possession of the land and settle in it, for I have assigned the land to you to possess." Nahmanides interprets that verse as a positive commandment: "... that we may not leave the land in the hands of other nations ... and the Sages called this a commanded war." In other words, we are commanded to conquer Eretz Yisrael and keep her in Jewish hands regardless of the danger and any loss of Jewish life that might occur in a process. However, some reject Nahmanides' opinion because he is the only one who considers it a mitzvah to capture and retain the land of Israel. Others have explained that even according to Nahmanides, this mitzvah only applies in the days of the Messiah.*

On the other hand, there are at least three arguments in favor of territorial compromise:

> *Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, former Sephardic Chief Rabbi of Israel, has emphasized that pikuach nefesh, the saving of human life, takes precedence over all the commandments in the Torah except for idol worship, forbidden sexual relationships and murder (Sanhedrin 74a). Thus, even if it were a mitzvah to keep the territories under Jewish sovereignty, pekuach nefesh would take precedence. As Rabbi Yosef states:*

"Therefore, if the military commanders along with members of the cabinet decide that it is an issue of *pekuach nefesh*... that if the territories are returned, the threat of war shall be decreased and there is the possibility of lasting peace, it appears that according to all halachic opinions it is permissible to return territories of *Eretz Yisrael* for the case of attaining this goal, for nothing stands in the way of *pikuach nefesh.*"

Secondly, there is a clear biblical precedent for handing over Israeli territory for the sake of peace: Since King Hiram of Tyre had supplied Solomon with all the cedar and cypress timber and gold that he required [for building the Temple], *King Solomon, in turn, gave Hiram twenty towns in the region of Galilee* (I Kings 9:11).

If King Solomon was permitted to give away twenty towns in Galilee as a token of friendship for services rendered, we too are permitted to give away sections of *Eretz Yisael* for the sake of peace.

> *And this leads us to the last point. Peace is one of the great ideals of Judaism: "By three things is the world preserved: by justice, by truth and by peace" (Avot 1:18). "If the Jewish people worship idols but lives in peace with each other, God forgives them" (Sifrei Naso, par. 42). "Great is peace for all major prayers and blessings end with the word Shalom" (ibid.). But it is not enough to sit back and wait for peace to happen. The Psalmist said: "Seek peace and pursue it" (Psalm 34:15). "Hillel said: be of the disciples of Aaron, loving peace and pursuing peace." (Avot 1:12), while the parallel passage explains that Aaron used to run back and forth between two antagonists until peace was achieved.*

In conclusion, we have here a classic case of conflicting values in Judaism—our love of *Eretz Yisrael* vs. our desire to save human life and our desire to pursue peace. The choice is not an easy one and has justifiably aroused strong emotions on both sides of the issue.

126th Annual Meeting and Supper | Thursday, May 15 | 6:00 pm

The Annual Congregational Meeting of Park Avenue Synagogue is our major opportunity to learn about and participate in the workings of our communal home. Chairman Amy A.B. Bressman will give her final "State of the Congregation" report reviewing the activities of the last year and of her five-year term. We will congratulate new congregational officers and members of the Board of Trustees and Advisory Council as they are inducted by our clergy. A complimentary buffet dinner will be held at 6:00 pm so that everyone can meet and mingle before the business meeting.

I wish for all of us, that we go from strength to strength.

On Sunday, May 4th, our community will celebrate the miraculous 60th anniversary of the State of Israel. Our synagogue will host a block party followed by a very special concert featuring guest cantor, Meir Finkelstein. He will be joined by our own Cantor David Lefkowitz and Cantor Nancy Abramson and our Congregational Choir. East 87th Street between Madison and Park will be closed off from noon until 4:00 pm to give us all the opportunity to "travel through Israel." Each activity on the street will be tied to a city or region in Israel. This special day is the culmination of many activities in honor of this most important milestone.

There could not be a more fitting final event in our year and a half of 125th Anniversary celebrations. I have often spoken of the values that define Park Avenue Synagogue: a commitment to Torah, to community, and to the State of Israel. At this time of reflection on our institution, we have taken each of these values seriously. We have written and dedicated a new 125th anniversary Torah, we have celebrated in countless ways the importance of this community in our lives and we have illustrated the priority the Park Avenue Synagogue places on treasuring and supporting the state of Israel. Our 125th Anniversary trip to Israel in December with 244 congregants, the gift to the Khan Theater in Jerusalem given in the name of our Synagogue and our Anniversary, and now our block party, all tangibly express our commitment to Israel.

So as this exciting 125th anniversary year comes to a close may I wish for all of us, that we go from strength to strength.

P.A.S. Gallery

P.A.S. Timeline: Selections from our Archives

Through June 2008

This very special exhibition includes a timeline of Park Avenue Synagogue history, juxtaposing P.A.S. milestones with contemporary events in Jewish history, as well as significant events in NYC, American, and world history. The exhibit cases feature significant artifacts from the P.A.S. Archives collection. The show begins with the history of the founding congregations, and then surveys the decades from the 1920s through the 125th Anniversary year. The exhibition highlights the generations of clergy who have led our synagogue with commitment and vision and their distinguished contributions to P.A.S., the Jewish community, and world history.

Park Avenue Congregational School

Park Avenue Synagogue Congregational School is now accepting new applications and re-enrollments for the 2008-2009 school year from members and non-members.

→ The school will consider new applications for *Gan, Alef* and *Bet* grades
→ as well as transfers into higher grades.
→ There are spots available in our *Limud* program for learning differences.
→ Re-enrollment forms for returning students are due back by May 2nd.

For more information *or to request an application packet, please call 212-369-2600 ext. 131.*

P.A.S. Celebrates Israel at 60!

Shabbat morning, May 3 | **Musical service** *featuring Israeli-born Cantor Meir Finkelstein*

Sunday, May 4 | **Israel Parade Banner Workshop** | **9:00 a.m.**

Sunday, May 4 | **Israel at 60 Block Party**—*Your Passport to a Day in Israel* | **12:00-4:00 pm**

Sunday, May 4 | **"Israel: A Celebration in Song"** | **4:00 pm**

Wednesday, May 7 | *screening of* **Beaufort** *(Academy Award nominated Israeli film)* | **7:00 pm**

Sunday, June 1 | **Salute to Israel Parade** | *time to be announced*

East 87th Street between Park and Madison Avenues

Israel at 60 Block Party | Sunday, May 4 | 12:00-4:00 pm

VENDORS TO INCLUDE: *(list in formation)*

Agas & Tamar Jewelry and Design
Israeli Cafe—*light food and drink for sale*
Judaica Classics by Doina
Nurit Jaglom Fashion Jewelry
Pri-El Dead Sea Luxuries
Ravit Shalom Hamsot

ACTIVITIES TO INCLUDE:

Climb Masada rock climbing wall
Israeli History Jeopardy
Israeli art projects for all ages
Contests, games and prizes
Dancing, singing and fun
Featuring a Live Camel!

MUSICAL GUESTS TO INCLUDE:

Mika Hary—*2007 finalist in "Kochav Nolad," (Israel's American Idol)*
Israeli Jazz Ensemble
Children's Choir and Congregational Singers
Cantor Meir Finkelstein
Israeli dance performance by our own school children

IN HONOR OF ISRAEL'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY *The Rothschild Library Presents a Movie that Lays Bare the Conditions of Israeli Existence*

Beaufort | Wednesday May 7 | 7:00 pm | *No charge* | *Refreshments will be served*

Hailed by the Jerusalem Post as "Israel's First Great War Movie."

The 12th century Crusader castle called Beaufort is in Southern Lebanon. In 1982, this castle was captured from the PLO amid much media fanfare. Eighteen years later, the castle is still guarded by a handful of soldiers whose acute boredom is only outstripped by daily terror for their lives as an unseen enemy hurls ever greater missiles at their position. This is the story of their last days before evacuation and retreat, days of breathtaking violence, disintegration and questioning. As award-winning Director Joseph Ceder explains the military logic, "One minute you're willing to die for it. The next, it's worth nothing."

Kenneth Turan of the Los Angeles Times says "'Beaufort' is a kind of Israeli 'Apocalypse Now,' a brooding examination of the nature and purpose of war."

A stunning film of interiors addressing the nation's borders, "Beaufort" was filmed inside a similar Crusader castle in the accessible West Bank.

This Academy Award Nominated film is a must-see for anyone truly wanting to understand the Israeli condition in 2008.

Tal Sessler, Ph.D., Israeli author and JTS rabbinical student, will be on hand to provide historical background prior to the movie, and lead a discussion afterwards. While serving in the IDF, Tal worked as a writer of military history.

P.A.S. Celebrates Israel at 60!

Israel Parade Banner Workshop | Sunday, May 4 | 9:00 am

Start our festive day of celebrations by developing your creativity. Join our award-winning group of congregants of all ages—with or without experience—led by Sarah Gribetz and Ellen Alt, as we cut, paste, laugh, and create banners for the Israel Parade. At the June 1 Parade, we will proudly march in our P.A.S. t-shirts, bearing our new banner.

"Israel: A Celebration in Song" | Sunday, May 4 | 4:00 pm | Sanctuary | Guest Artist: Meir Finkelstein

The culminating event of our Israel Block Party and Street Fair Celebration will be a multi-generational concert held in our Sanctuary. The one hour Musicale, with beloved songs of Israel presented in glorious new arrangements, will enable all of us to feel the spirit of Israel portrayed through her six decades of music.

Our guest artist for this celebration will be Cantor Meir Finkelstein, one of the leading composers and performers of contemporary Jewish music. His writing for voice, instruments and choirs also brings added layers of spirit to his wonderful arrangements of well-known popular songs. Featured together in the concert with Meir Finkelstein will be our own cantors David Lefkowitz and Nancy Abramson, as well as our inspiring Congregational Singers and Synagogue Concert Choir, directed by our maestro, Neil Robinson.

We have sung many of Meir Finkelstein's compositions at our annual Musicales and Shabbat Morning Music Services, including his exuberant *Mi Chamocha,* tender *L'dor Vador,* melodic Prayer for Israel: *Avinu Shebashamayim,* and just recently *Yismechu.* For this, Meir has enhanced Israeli favorites with instrumental and rhythmic spirit and warmth, including medleys for solo, our choirs and our cantors. There also will be new Israeli music by other composers.

Cantor Finkelstein was born in Israel, and grew up in England and Scotland where his father held cantorial positions. Meir, while just a teenager, was appointed to posts as cantor in Glasgow and in London. It was our own Rabbi David H. Lincoln who first brought Meir to America in the mid-1970s to join him at Beth Hillel in suburban Chicago. His appearance at Park Avenue Synagogue is a special occasion for and tribute to our rabbi, just prior to his retirement. Finkelstein has moved to great prominence as cantor, composer, and concert artist, serving the largest Conservative synagogues in Los Angeles and Toronto. He now is cantor at suburban Detroit's premiere synagogue, Congregation Shaarey Zedek. Also he has been a close friend and colleague to both Cantors Lefkowitz and Abramson for many years.

Meir Finkelstein is one of the best-documented composers of contemporary Jewish music, whose compositions are sung throughout the world. Collaborating with Steven Spielberg, he composed music for the award-winning documentary, "Survivors of the Holocaust." His "Liberation" Oratorio, written for the 50th anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi death camps, premiered in 1995 at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion in Los Angeles. A 2006 performance of that work has been released on DVD.

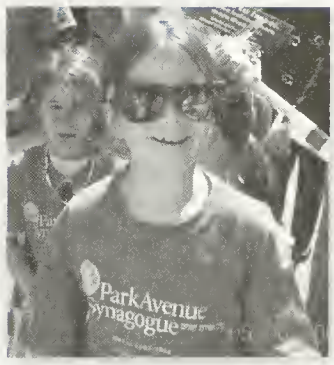
All of our singers and featured artists for the May 4th Musicale will also participate earlier in the afternoon with musical offerings on the Block Party stage outside on East 87th Street.

As part of the entire weekend of celebration, Cantor Finkelstein shall be conducting the *Musaf* Service on Shabbat May 3rd, and will be joined by our cantors and choir in singing some of the congregation's favorites from his music. All are invited to partake of this multi-faceted weekend of celebration!

Salute to Israel Parade | Sunday, June 1

Let us all show our support to Israel at its 60th Anniversary by joining the marchers and spectators along Fifth Avenue. The more people of all ages who participate, the stronger will be our message of support for Israel—a message that will be received by Washington, the media, and the world, as well as in Eretz Israel.

Marching in our P.A.S. t-shirts behind our P.A.S. banner, we will be part of the extraordinary spectacle including 60 shofar blowers opening the parade and 60 motorcycle riders bearing flags of Israel closing the parade; an international variety of dancers in beautiful array; as well as musicians—from strolling violins to Klezmer bands; street performers, clowns, jugglers, celebrities, dignitaries, and politicians; horse-drawn carriages, antique cars, 20 marching bands; floats, and the largest hora in the world since 1948.



E-mail *Lynley at llys@pasyn.org to reserve your spot and your t-shirt.*

Schedule of Religious Services

EXCEPT AS NOTED **Daily Minyanim** *Monday-Friday at 7:15 am; Sundays and Legal Holidays at 9:00 am.* **Mincha** *Sunday-Thursday at 5:45 pm.* **Hashkama** *Saturdays and Yom Tov at 7:30 am. Information is subject to change. Confirm at* ***www.pasyn.org*** *or with the office.*

Thursday, May 1 *26 Nisan*
Yom HaShoah

Friday, May 2 *27 Nisan*
Light Candles: 7:35 pm
6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service: Welcoming the Sabbath
Tiny Treasures

Saturday, May 3 *28 Nisan*
Parashat Kedoshim
9:15 am Sanctuary Service *featuring Cantor Meir Finkelstein*
Bar Mitzvah of Samuel Green, SON OF ELAINE GILDE & RICHARD GREEN
6:00 pm Mincha

Monday, May 5 *30 Nisan*
Rosh Chodesh Iyar

Tuesday, May 6 *1 Iyar*
Rosh Chodesh Iyar

Wednesday, May 7 *2 Iyar*
Yom HaZikaron

Thursday, May 8 *3 Iyar*
Yom HaAtzmaut

Friday, May 9 *4 Iyar*
Light Candles: 7:43 pm
6:15 pm Friday Evening Service

Saturday, May 10 *5 Iyar*
Parashat Emor
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
Bar Mitzvah of Michael Abraham Mazursky, SON OF VANESSA KOOBY & RONALD MAZURSKY
10:15 am Jr. Congregation
11:15 am Nitzanim Service
6:00 pm Mincha

Wednesday, May 14 *9 Iyar*
7:30 pm Healing Service

Friday, May 16 *11 Iyar*
Light Candles: 7:49 pm
6:15 pm Friday Evening Service
Children's Birthday Service

Saturday, May 17 *12 Iyar*
Parashat Behar
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
Bar Mitzvah of Jonathan Seidenwurm, SON OF EILEEN STRAUSS & KARL SEIDENWURM
9:30 am Havurah Service
10:15 am Jr. Congregation
11:15 am Tot Shabbat
11:15 am Nitzanim Service
6:00 pm Mincha

Friday, May 23 *18 Iyar*
Lag B'Omer
Light Candles: 7:56 pm
6:15 pm Friday Evening Service

Saturday, May 24 *19 Iyar*
Parashat Bechukosai
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
6:00 pm Mincha

Monday, May 26 *21 Iyar*
Memorial Day
9:00 am Morning Minyan

Friday, May 30 *25 Iyar*
Light Candles: 8:02 pm
6:15 pm Friday Evening Service

Saturday, May 31 *26 Iyar*
Parashat Bamidbar
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
Bat Mitzvah of Lindsey Nadler, DAUGHTER OF DR. ELLEN KAVEE & DR. STEPHEN NADLER
Bat Mitzvah of Emma Orlow, DAUGHTER OF MYRA FREED & DR. SETH ORLOW
11:15 am Nitzanim Service
10:15 am Jr. Congregation
6:00 pm Mincha

Rabbi David H. Lincoln and Rabbi Kenneth A. Stern will preach and conduct the services together with Cantor David Lefkowitz and Cantor Nancy Abramson and the Synagogue Choir, with Neil Robinson at the organ.

Lag B'omer

This minor holiday takes place on the 18th day of Iyar, the 33rd day of the counting of the Omer, which starts on the second day of Passover. In ancient days, this was a critical period for the harvest. Several traditions have arisen in connection with the day's Kabbalistic and historic meanings: it is often the day on which three-year old boys get their first haircut, and a day for weddings. Lag B'omer is now most frequently celebrated here and in Israel with picnics. **The P.A.S. picnic and program will take place in Central Park on May 28.**

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Men's Club

Hearing Men's Voices

Wednesday, May 21 | 8:00 pm

This program within the Men's Club provides small groups of men a setting to talk with each other about common life issues in a relaxed, confidential, facilitated setting.

Men's Club

Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs Dinner

Tuesday, June 17 | 6:30-8:30 pm | *Shelter Rock Jewish Center, 272 Shelter Rock Road, Roslyn, NY* | $ ✆

Rabbi David H. Lincoln will receive The Man of the Year Award *(Chavayrim Kol Yisrael Award)* at the 25th Annual Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs Metropolitan New York Regional Dinner, for outstanding contributions to the Park Avenue Synagogue Men's Club and The Metropolitan New York Region of the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs, respectively, and the Conservative movement.

In addition, our Rabbi Kenneth A. Stern will also be honored for his work as the Spiritual Leader of the New York Metropolitan Region Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs for the past three years. A Hebrew High School student will receive the Youth Award at this event as well.

The event will include a two hour smorgasbord/dessert, open bar, music, and awards ceremony.

A wonderful way to support our honorees is to attend the event and join us for an evening of good cheer and fellowship as we show our appreciation for their invaluable contributions to P.A.S.

The cost of the dinner will be $85 per person payable in advance. Reservations must be made by June 1.

$ ✆ **For more information** *contact the FJMC Liaison Brian Chenensky at 646-662-1573, or Chenensky@hotmail.com or use the form that you will be receiving in the mail.*

Sisterhood

Sisterhood Yiddish Club

Tuesday, May 13 | 1:00 pm

Join us in the Rothschild Library for Yiddish conversation and Yiddish culture—poetry, music, stories, theater, and film. Our meetings are lively and enjoyable. Even if your Yiddish is very rusty, don't hesitate to come.

For more information, *call Florence Solomon at 212-369-3856.*

Young Couples Group

Family Friendly Shabbat Dinner

Friday, May 2 | 5:15 pm | $ ✆

Please join the Young Couples Group for dinner. We'll provide food, fun and crafts. And we will all join the Friday Shabbat Service, honoring our "Tiny Treasures" All are welcome.

YCG Members, $42,
Non -members $50,
Children $25, and children under 1, free.

$ ✆ **For more information or to R.S.V.P.,** *please contact Rochelle Ludwig at rochelleludwig@gmail.com, Stephanie Leichter at stephanie.leichter@gmail.com, or Natalie Barth at natalie_barth@hotmail.com.*

Tiny Treasures

Friday, May 2 | 6:15 pm at Service

Our Third Annual "Tiny Treasures" celebration will take place at the end of the Friday Evening Service, after the Young Families Shabbat Dinner (which starts at 5:15 pm). During the service, our one- year-old treasures will be called up to the bimah and we will celebrate their first birthdays together as a community. A Birthday Kiddush will follow.

Synagogue Family

Welcome to P.A.S.

Park Avenue Synagogue warmly welcomes these new members to our congregational family:

Yael and Alp Abraham Benadrete
Limor and Eliot Geller
Dr. Jennifer Nogi and Dr. Adam Hirsch
Alexandra and Gregory Kwiat
Rita Unga and Nathan Moser
Carolyn and Aaron Shapiro
Amy and Todd Zipper

שרשרת אינסופית brokenchain

WE EXTEND PARTICULAR THANKS TO THOSE WHO FORGED THEIR LINKS AND MADE SPECIAL GIFTS TO OUR TORAH FUND:

Torah Adornments
Sidney & Ruth Nearenberg

Words of the Torah
Barry and Karen Frankel

Letters of the Torah
Neil & Carolyn Coplan
Robert & Roslyn Haber
Jeff & Audrey Mordos
Robert & Joan Rosen
Renee Waldinger
Selma Weintraub

Samuel Lewis Green | May 3

Sam has been at P.A.S. since entering the Early Childhood Center at age three. Sam loved participating in the 2004 and 2007 Congregational trips to Israel and sharing this experience with his P.A.S. classmates.

Sam is a Seventh Grader at St. Bernard's School. He is a spirited debater and has represented his class on the Student Council. Sam fences foil on the St. Bernard's fencing team. He also plays baseball and he can usually be found behind home plate, catching for both his school and Yorkville Little League teams.

As the son of transplanted New Englanders, Sam has inherited a passion for the Boston Red Sox, and has enjoyed celebrating their two World Series victories.

Sam will be returning for his fourth summer at Camp Androscoggin in Maine, where he plans to devote his time to sailing and other waterfront activities.

Sam would like to thank the clergy and his teachers and tutors for helping him to prepare for his Bar Mitzvah.

Michael Abraham Mazursky | May 10

Michael is a happy Seventh Grader at the New York City Lab School, where his favorite subject is Math. In his spare time he likes to play the piano and tennis and socialize with his friends. Michael's closest friend and biggest fan in the world is his big sister, Stephanie.

Baseball, basketball and soccer are Michael's team sports of choice. He plays league sports throughout the year, but always enjoys a bike ride around Manhattan with his dad, or a visit to the Metropolitan Museum or the Opera with his mom. He has spent three wonderful summers at Camp Baco in the Adirondacks.

Michael attended P.A.S.ECC, and loves the community of friends that accompanied him to the religious school. In December, on the P.A.S. Congregational trip to Israel, Michael enjoyed participating in the Congregational Bar Mitzvah Service and experiencing Israel in a special way with these friends and their families.

Michael thanks the clergy, his teachers and his family for preparing him for this special day.

Jonathan Seidenwurm | May 17

Jonathan Ray Seidenwurm, "Jray" to his close friends and family, is a Seventh Grader attending the Wagner Middle School SP program. Jonathan has been attending P.A.S. since *Alef.* Aside from skiing, Jonathan also fences at The New Amsterdam Fencing Academy. Jonathan started fencing at Cedar Lake Camp, which he plans to return to this summer. He also enjoys going to Fire Island during the summer with his family where he loves the beach, sailing and kayaking.

Jonathan is an avid reader and his favorite subject at school is history. Jonathan is doing community service with P.A.S. every Wednesday and has worked on a number of political campaigns with his father.

Jonathan would like to thank Mirium Turk, Rabbi Stern, Cantor Leftkowitz and Cantor Nancy for all their hard work to help get him prepared for his Bar Mitzvah.

Condolences

Park Avenue Synagogue extends heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved of our congregation and their families:

Alan L. Jacobs, *on the loss of his Mother, Shirley Jacobs;*
The entire congregation shares the grief of Leah Meir, Shira Levin and Nahma Nadich and their families *on the loss of Hadassah Nadich, widow of our late Rabbi Judah Nadich;*
Lawrence Mittman and Mrs. Wesley LePatner, *on the loss of their mother and grandmother, Esther Mittman;*
Lisa Noble, *on the loss of her father, Michael D. Fischer;*
Larry Nussbaum, *on the loss of his mother, Edith Nussbaum;*
Geraldine Sedler, *on the loss of her mother, Belle Klein;*
Family and friends of the late Tobie A. Wiesen.

Note: *if you have family news to share with the congregation, please contact Lynn Schneider at the synagogue office: 212-369-2600 or lschneider@pasyn.org.*

Emma Orlow | May 31

Since completing the 92nd Street Y Nursery School, Emma has attended the P.A.S. Congregational School and Trevor Day School, where she is currently a Seventh Grader.

Emma has an infectious *joie de vivre*. Her interests include writing, reading, and photography. Though an inveterate New Yorker, she loves to travel. Emma is passionate about fashion journalism, and those who know her recognize that she has a style all her own.

Emma is very devoted to her friends and family, who count on her for wise counsel and support. She has a strong sense of justice and of compassion for others. For her UJA-sponsored Bat Mitzvah project, Emma is working with Sharsheret, an organization dedicated to helping Jewish women with breast cancer.

Emma is appreciative of all those who helped guide her in her journey to becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

Lindsey Brooke Nadler | May 31

Lindsey was born and raised in Manhattan. She attends Columbia Grammar and Preparatory School on the West Side. She is a voracious reader and has shown a real passion for the sciences. Among Lindsey's many interests, she enjoys travel and horseback riding. She has studied piano and performed in a number of area recitals.

Lindsey loves the performing arts and, whether in camp productions or school plays, she enjoys acting and singing as well. She has been on the Y swim team. Currently she fences saber. She hopes to compete in the Nationals in California this summer.

She has attended the Park Avenue Synagogue's Congregational School since 1999. Her Mitzvah project was with Dorot and involved volunteering to help feed the homeless at a local soup kitchen. Lindsey would like to thank Rabbi Lincoln, Rabbi Stern, Cantor Lefkowitz, Cantor Abramson, Cantor Izenstark and her teachers for all their support and encouragement.

Jessica Gruenstein

Jessica Gruenstein is a Sixth Grade student at the Ramaz Middle School. She is a proud member of Park Avenue Synagogue, Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun, and Temple Adas Israel in Sag Harbor.

When she is not studying Torah or doing homework, Jessica can often be found at the piano where she enjoys playing Mendelssohn and Bach. An avid poetry writer, she is also editor of the Ramaz Middle School poetry journal. For her *chesed* project, she looks forward to combining her love of poetry and art to help needy Jewish children.

IN MEMORIAM

Martha Hadassah Nadich, the beloved wife of our late Rabbi Judah Nadich, passed away in March. She was an intrinsic part of the life of this synagogue and the Jewish community. She ably carried the traditions of her literary family, in which her father Menachem Ribalow was the editor of "Hadoar," the only Hebrew weekly periodical in America; and her brother Harold was a literary critic and essayist specializing in Jewish fiction. Hadassah often wrote articles for many American Jewish publications and was a frequent lecturer; as well as serving as the Executive Director (a position then called Executive Secretary) of the Rabbinical Assembly, the association of Conservative rabbis. Another special art for which Mrs. Nadich was respected was exercised in the kitchen and dining room. She was a gracious and frequent hostess and cook, some of whose recipes have been included in the New York Times cookbook.

Two P.A.S. members, **Jonathan and Dina Leader**, are co-Executive Directors of the Salute to Israel Parade, to take place on June 1.

Zionism, Israel and Park Avenue Synagogue...Post 1948

by Laurie Harris, Co-Chair, Archives Committee

POST-WORLD WAR II AMERICAN ZIONISM

After the creation of the State of Israel, few American Jews moved to Israel. Most critically, American constitutional guarantees have enabled Jews to see their future here, and to plan and work hard for that future. In an article in the Atlantic Monthly in February 1945, "The Credo of an American Zionist," P.A.S. Rabbi Milton Steinberg saw (non-European) Jews "remaining in the lands of their residence," supporting "in Palestine a Jewish Commonwealth for the homeless Jews of the world. There the Jewish spirit shall be reborn, and (there) shall flow to the Diaspora inspiration."

Another P.A.S. member, Hon. Simon J. Rifkind, was also involved in the debate about the nature of American Zionism. His "Credo of an American Zionist" was reproduced in the Bulletin in January 1950. The war fought between Israel and its Arab neighbors after Israel's declaration of statehood and the subsequent ongoing tensions with those neighbors made the continuous need to support Israel's security more obvious. Judge Rifkind declared that although American Jews did not owe loyalty to the State of Israel, they did have "a common heritage of history, religion and culture and a special concern for the unimpeded flowering of Jewish civilization in Israel, and for the tranquility and happiness of Jews in their ancient home. We Zionists believe that the security and success of a strong democratic commonwealth in the Middle East serves the interests of the United States, promotes world democracy, and know that it is in accord with well established American policy."

Israel's security continues to be the core of much of the American Jewish and P.A.S. community. Israel continued to be embroiled in ongoing struggles with Arab neighbors, but the real possibility that Israel would be defeated in the 1967 War emphasized the need for us to actively support the State.

POST-WAR ZIONISM AND CONSERVATIVE JEWRY

Though Conservative Judaism supported Zionist ideals, there was not agreement with all of Israel's positions, particularly laws passed actively helping Orthodox Jews and not Jews of the other movements. Park Avenue Synagogue's backing of the Mercaz and Masorti movements has been an evolving part of our commitment to

Zionism and the State of Israel today. Mercaz USA, formed as the American Conservative Zionist organization, represents Conservative Jews in the World Zionist Organization and worldwide. Its goals are the "support of the State of Israel, and promoting in Israel a democratic and pluralistic society protecting citizens' religious and civil rights. It seeks to link worldwide Jewish communities to Israel through tourism, education, and *aliyah*."

The Masorti movement was created in 1979 as Israel's own indigenous Conservative movement, supporting its own synagogues, camps, educational projects and programs for new immigrants. The movement works to create a Jewish society in Israel that is pluralistic, tolerant, ethical, and open to the modern world, yet maintains a strong commitment to Conservative practice and *halachah*.

P.A.S AND ISRAEL: FINANCIAL SUPPORT

For many years, our fundraising for Israel-related charities was almost as rigorous as for Park Avenue Synagogue. United Jewish Appeal, the American organization most directly involved with relief and resettlement efforts of displaced Jews, was dubbed "the foreign policy of the synagogue." The Federation of Jewish Philanthropies supported a multitude of social service agencies in the New York area, caring for refugees as well as needy Jews in the metropolitan area.

Virtually every Bulletin, from the 1940s until the 1970s, contained an article about fundraisers for Israel. Our members led these events or were the honorees at benefits. Fundraising for the George M. and Rita Shapiro House in the 1970s resulted in a reordering of priorities toward meeting our needs. After the building was completed, fundraising efforts were broadened to support Israel, build an endowment, maintain support for the Jewish Theological Seminary, and participate in more New York City community-based projects. Highlighting their continued importance, the now-combined UJA-Federation Campaign and the Jewish Theological Seminary are the only non-synagogue causes for which we regularly raise funds.

P.A.S. AND ISRAEL: PROGRAMMING

We have benefited by our prominence as an institution, our New York City location and proximity to the offices of the Israeli Mission to the United Nations. Year after year, Consul Generals and other

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Expecting? Before The Stork Arrives | **Thursday, May 1** | **8:00 pm**
Spend a calm, leisurely hour with Rabbi Stern thinking and talking about Hebrew names, *brit milah,* baby-naming ceremonies, and *pidyon haben* before the stork arrives and you have to make these decisions amidst the emotions and changes that come with the arrival of your newborn.

Learn Hebrew at Park Avenue Syngaogue | $ ✆

Mondays, May 5,12, 19 * | **no Modern Hebrew for Intermediate and Advanced Students class May 19*
Siddur Hebrew, Level II, Intermediate | **6:30-7:30 pm** | *Instr,* **Sarah Gribetz**
Advanced Beginner's Conversational Hebrew | **6:30-7:30 pm** | *Instr,* **Andi Meiseles**
Modern Hebrew for Intermediate and Advanced Students | **7:30-8:30 pm** | *Instr,* **Varda Hubara**

Tuesdays, May 6, 13, 20, and 27
Siddur Hebrew, Level I, Beginners | **6:30-7:30 pm** | *Instr,* **Dina Mann** | *no knowledge of Hebrew necessary*

Advance registration and payment required. Members: $50 per trimester; Non-members: $75 per trimester.

Healing Service | **Wednesday, May 14** | **7:30 pm** | *Appleman Chapel*
This brief and intimate service is specifically designed for those with cares to unburden, hopes and yearnings to express. It is meant to be a vehicle for expressing concerns of a personal nature (or your concern for someone else)—whatever is on your mind and in your heart. We hope that the inspiration and strength you will receive from participating in this service will lead to restoration of body and soul. *(r'fu'at ha'nefesh, u'r'fu'at ha'guf).*

For further information, *please call Rabbi Kenneth Stern at 212-369-2600, ext. 123.*

Jewish Thought and Practice with Rabbi Stern | **Ongoing Tuesdays** | **11:00 am**
On Tuesday mornings at 11:00 am, Rabbi Kenneth Stern teaches a course on Jewish thought and practice in an informal round-table setting in the Rothschild Library. Short readings are used as the basis for wide-ranging class discussion of noted Jewish thinkers and the issues that their work raises for today's Jews. Sponsored by Sisterhood, this course is free and open to all members of P.A.S. Don't hesitate to drop in and sample a class.

Lunch 'n' Learn | **Ongoing Thursdays** | **11:00 am-1:00 pm** | *No charge*
Instructors, Members of the Clergy and Education Department
Meet others and share a learning experience with fellow congregants and the synagogue's professional leadership. Topics are varied. Bring a kosher dairy lunch; coffee will be served.

$ ✆ **For more information on classes or to register,** *contact the Department of Lifelong Learning at 212-369-2600 ext. 140 or llys@pasyn.org.*

Get all the latest news and information from P.A.S. right at your desk!

Sign up for our e-mail list and find out everything that is going on at Park Avenue Synagogue. You'll get regular updates of services and events; notification of changes, and news about your congregation. Just send an e-mail to Lynn Schneider, at lschneider@pasyn.org, and she will take care of everything.

Early Childhood Center

Applications

Member families who would like to apply to the Park Avenue Synagogue Early Childhood Center for the 2009-10 school years are asked to call the school and request an application form between May 1 and June 30, 2008. (After that date the school will be closed until mid-August.)

All children who were born before April 1, 2007 are eligible for school in September 2009. The Park Avenue Synagogue Early Childhood Center adheres strictly to its cut-off dates. Families who have been active long-time members of the synagogue are given special consideration. However, because of limitations on class size and the need to balance groups in a variety of ways, membership does not guarantee acceptance.

There is an application fee of $40 per child. The application process includes a visit and tour of the school by one or both parents and a separate visit with the child.

For the September 2008 school year there were approximately 50 openings. It will be very helpful to have some idea prior to September how many eligible member families are interested in a place for the 2009-10 school term. This will enable us to determine how many applications from new members or non-members we will be able to accept. Thank you for your cooperation.

The Israel Experience

Ron Koas, Education Director

A visit to Israel is a must nowadays. We need to show our support for the Jewish homeland in its difficult times. When Park Avenue Synagogue was planning its trip to Israel, some people were quite nervous about it. They would approach me and say that all of us traveling were "brave" to go to Israel now with a "war" going on. Others told me they would pray for our safe return. I have never thought about visiting Israel as something brave or dangerous. For me, going to Israel is simply coming home: eating my mother's food, visiting family and friends, and traveling to beautiful places.

As you have all probably heard by now, our synagogue trip was outstanding! I stayed on a few extra days in Tel Aviv to see my family. On one of my first days I met two old friends, and we went together to sit in a café on one of the main streets of this wonderful city. We sat opposite the Rabin Memorial and I remembered the tragic day when he was assassinated. We chatted about life in Israel, and I asked my friends what was new, or *"mah nishma?"* They told me to just look around and see for myself. There was a guard at the entrance of almost every restaurant and mall, and people were going places via taxi when possible rather than by bus. But from my conversations it seemed like they were beyond the fear that paralyzed them a few years ago. Israelis are going on with their lives now, despite the dangers, because they have realized that life must go on. Life in Israel is like in any other place: children walk to school, people go shopping, and families go to the park.

There is so much to write, but I will conclude by telling you that despite your hesitations, you should consider a trip to Israel. If you plan it sensibly (come to me for any suggestions!) you will have a safe, fulfilling, and memory-making experience.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF *Dr. Albert and Phyllis L. Cornell*

Bikur Cholim Caring Committee

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE ILL, ELDERLY OR HOMEBOUND?

The P.A.S. *Bikur Cholim* Caring Committee reaches out to those in need through telephone calls, visits, and holiday packages. The Caring Committee is comprised of trained volunteers committed to providing confidential hands-on support and companionship to members of our congregation.

To arrange for this mitzvah, *please call Rabbi Lincoln's office at 212-369-2600 ext.120.*

May Birthday Celebration

Friday, May 16 | 6:15 pm

Bring Shabbat into your children's lives by celebrating their birthdays at P.A.S. All children with May birthdays will be called up to the bimah and honored. Come as a family and celebrate.

Contact *Rabbi Stern's office for more details.*

Tot Shabbat

Saturday, May 17 | 11:15 am

P.A.S. offers toddlers and preschoolers the wonderful opportunity to celebrate together with their parents, grandparents and friends on Shabbat.

Lag B'omer picnic *in Central Park*

Wednesday, May 28 | 5:30-7:30 pm

CS will have early dismissal that day at 5:00 pm.

Tikkun Olam

Children's Camp Clothing Drive

Donate your gently used summer clothing, including clothes for Shabbat services and athletic equipment for children ages 5-16.

COLLECTION DROP-OFF DATES:

Monday, May 12 | all day
Tuesday, May 13 | all day
Wednesday, May 14 | until 4 pm

The children who will benefit from your generosity are being sent to camps by the Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty.

Thursday, May 1 *26 Nisan*
Yom HaShoah
4:45 pm CS: *Yom HaShoah*

Friday, May 2 *27 Nisan*
5:15 pm Young Couples' Club Family Shabbat Dinner $ ✆
6:15 pm *Kabbalat Shabbat Service: Welcoming the Sabbath*
Tiny Treasures

Saturday, May 3 *28 Nisan*
Parashat Kedoshim
No School
9:15 am Sanctuary Service *featuring Cantor Meir Finkelstein*
Bar Mitzvah of Samuel Green, SON OF ELAINE GILDE & RICHARD GREEN

Sunday, May 4 *29 Nisan*
Registration Deadline/Hebrew School
Salute to Israel
9:00 am Parade Banner Family Workshop
12:00 pm P.A.S. Celebrates Israel at 60 Block Party
4:00 pm Musicale
Rikudiyah Dance Festival
Kadima and Ruach Events

Monday, May 5 *30 Nisan*
4:45 pm *CS: Yom HaShoah*

Wednesday, May 7 *2 Iyar*
Yom HaZikaron

Thursday, May 8 *3 Iyar*
Yom HaAtzmaut

Saturday, May 10 *5 Iyar*
Parashat Emor
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
Bar Mitzvah of Michael Abraham Mazursky, SON OF VANESSA KOOBY & RONALD MAZURSKY
10:15 am Jr. Congregation
11:15 am *Nitzanim Service*
6:00 pm *Mincha*

Monday, May 12 *7 Iyar*
Tikkun Olam Collection Day

Tuesday, May 13 *8 Iyar*
Tikkun Olam Collection Day

Wednesday, May 14 *9 Iyar*
Tikkun Olam Collection Day

Friday, May 16 *11 Iyar*
6:15 pm Friday Evening Service
Children's Birthday Service

Saturday, May 17 *12 Iyar*
Parashat Behar
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
Bar Mitzvah of Jonathan Seidenwurm, SON OF EILEEN STRAUSS & KARL SEIDENWURM
9:30 am *Havurah Service*
10:15 am Jr. Congregation
11:15 am *Tot Shabbat*
11:15 am *Nitzanim Service*

Sunday, May 18 *13 Iyar*
CS Zayin Museum Visit
Rosh Chodesh: It's a Girl Thing!
HS Community Service

Thursday, May 22 *17 Iyar*
5:30 pm *Vav* Students/Parents B'nai Mitzvah Program

Friday, May 23 *18 Iyar*
Lag B'Omer
6:15 pm Friday Evening Service

Saturday, May 24 *19 Iyar*
Parashat Bechukosai
No School
9:15 am Sanctuary Service

Monday, May 26 *21 Iyar*
Memorial Day
Offices Closed
No School

Wednesday, May 28 *23 Iyar*
5:00 pm CS Early Dismissal
5:30 pm *Lag B'omer* Program & Picnic in Central Park

Thursday, May 29 *24 Iyar*
Last Day of CS and Toddler Program

Friday, May 30 *25 Iyar*
Last Day of Toddler Program
6:00 pm *CS Tekes Siyyum* Moving Up
Kabbalat Shabbat Service & Oneg Shabbat
6:15 pm Friday Evening Service

Saturday, May 31 *26 Iyar*
Parashat Bamidbar
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
Bat Mitzvah of Lindsey Nadler, DAUGHTER OF DR. ELLEN KAVEE & DR. STEPHEN NADLER
Bat Mitzvah of Emma Orlow, DAUGHTER OF MYRA FREED & DR. SETH ORLOW
11:15 am *Nitzanim Service*
10:15 am Jr. Congregation

Zionism as Redemption After the Shoah

by Menachem Rosensaft

From almost the moment of their liberation in the spring of 1945, the Holocaust survivors' affirmation of their national Jewish identity in the Displaced Persons camps of Germany, Austria and Italy took the form of a political and spiritually redemptive Zionism. The creation of a Jewish state in what was then Palestine was far more than a practical goal. It was the one ideal that had not been destroyed, and that allowed them to retain the hope that an affirmative future, beyond gas chambers, mass-graves and ashes, was still possible for them.

In December of 1945, my father, Josef Rosensaft, the elected head of the Central Committee of Liberated Jews in the British Zone of Germany, told the leadership of American Jewry assembled at the first post-war conference of the United Jewish Appeal in Atlantic City, according to a report in the New York Herald Tribune that the survivors' sole hope was emigration to Palestine, the only place in the world "willing, able and ready to open its doors to the broken and shattered Jews of war-ravaged Europe." The following week, the New York Journal American quoted him as declaring at an emergency conference on Palestine at the Manhattan Center in New York City, that, "We know that the English are prepared to stop us with machine guns. But machine guns cannot stop us." My father understood that the goal of a Jewish state was a spiritual lifeline that gave the survivors of the Shoah a sense of purpose and a basis for hope. Testifying before the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on Palestine in Belsen in early 1946, my father told its members that if the survivors would not be allowed to go to Palestine, "We shall go back to Belsen, Dachau, Buchenwald and Auschwitz, and you will bear the moral responsibility for it."

Park Avenue Synagogue and Israel Today

by Laurie Harris

Park Avenue Synagogue has always been an ardent supporter of the State of Israel, and continues to re-emphasize that support today. Our clergy and members have helped define American Zionism. Seeking to grow as 21st century American Jews, we understand that Jewish life is increasingly centered in two places: North America and Israel, and that we need to develop our own answers as to how we move forward as part of the worldwide Jewish community. Overall, we have sought to strengthen both communal and individual knowledge of and relationships with the State of Israel.

In 2007, we delved into our "Shared History, Shared Destiny" by asking ourselves the following questions:

1. What is the story we share with Jews in Israel and around the world?
2. What elements of our history, culture and beliefs do we share? What elements will link us in the future?
3. What is Israel's role in the emerging worldwide Jewish community and overall worldwide community?
4. What can we identify as future goals that will motivate us toward a common destiny? To what extent can we develop a united destiny?

In their programming, the arms, schools, clergy, and educators have intensified the exploration of these fundamental questions. An Israel Committee of the Board of Trustees was formed, to work with the arms and professional staff to help create opportunities for us to strengthen our ties with the Jewish State.

We renewed our efforts to encourage members to develop personal connections to the State of Israel: we increased our yearly programming about Israel, particularly in the "Israel This Year" themed-year of 2004. Most important, we organized and promoted congregational trips to Israel in 2004 and 2007.

INTENSIFYING P.A.S.-ISRAEL CONNECTIONS: THE TORAH PROJECT, 2007-2008

Our core Jewish values are embedded in the Torah and its teachings, which have guided our people and been the foundation of our religion for thousands of years. Our synagogue's religious, spiritual, and communal life revolves around our dedication to the place of Torah in our lives today. The 125th anniversary celebration provided special opportunities for enhancing our place in Jewish and synagogue history, and forging an indelible personal Jewish link. All members of Park Avenue Synagogue had the privilege and opportunity to inscribe letters in an Anniversary Torah.

Approximately 3,000 individuals, family groups, synagogue arms and committee groups were guided by the *Sopher,* Rabbi Druin, each at their own designated time, to perform this 613th commandment. In addition, a special exhibit in the P.A.S. gallery featured the story of how a Torah is written, along with our collection of Torah mantles and ark fittings. Photographs of congregants engaged with the Torah and snapshots taken of every person and group when writing their letter were included in the display.

INTENSIFYING ISRAEL CONNECTIONS THROUGH ISRAEL-LINKED HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS

For years, the children of the Religious School celebrated Tu BiSh'vat together, while the rest of the community read in the Bulletin about this minor holiday, often called the "New Year for the trees." Following Israel's leadership, in the past few years we have held numerous community Tu BiSh'vat Seders. Congregants of all ages have participated in reciting the blessings and in learning more about connections to the Jewish people and the land of Israel through songs, stories and rituals. Adopting a contemporary Israeli trend emphasizing environmental concerns helps foster a new awareness of our ongoing links.

Congregation-wide performances and parties have been a joyous way to celebrate Israel's Yom HaAtzma-ut anniversary. In 2004, the *Tzofim,* a singing troupe comprised of Israel's most talented high school youth, entertained. In 2008, we celebrate Israel's 60th Anniversary with a street fair on East 87th Street. Park Avenue Synagogue members have supported the annual Salute to Israel Parade, either as observers, or in recent years, as active participants. In fact, Park Avenue Synagogue won an award in the 2007 Parade.

INTENSIFYING P.A.S.-ISRAEL CONNECTIONS THROUGH PROGRAMMING

The theme "Israel This Year" was adopted in 2004. We began the year with a Shabbaton featuring Dr. Daniel Gordis called "Our Heart is in the East: The Place of Israel in the Lives of American Jewry." We explored our conceptions of, our knowledge of, and our relationship to Israel and its people. The Young Couples Group followed with "Life on the Frontlines: Israeli Soldiers Speak about Their Struggles for Peace." The Women's Evening Group offered a program about the "Land, Sea and Air Problems of Israel and Neighboring Countries." It included a presentation by the Director of the ARAVA Institute for Environmental Studies, an Israeli Regional center for conservation and environmental protection. They followed with "A View of Conservative

Judaism in Israel" featuring the President of the Masorti Foundation in Israel.

The Men's Club featured an interactive forum and discussion of the "Path Toward Peace in the Middle East." Then they invited Alon Pinkas, Consul General of the Israeli government, to speak at a Shabbat morning service. After a Men's Club Friday Evening Service, Ami Ayalon and Sari Nusseibeh, who had proposed a new peace settlement to the Israeli-Palestinian stalemate, spoke at our dinner. The Men's Club also arranged at Yom HaShoah for a synagogue-wide tour of the Museum of Jewish Heritage-Living Memorial to the Holocaust, remembering the tragedy that made the creation of the Jewish State so urgent.

The Adult Education program offered "Israel Now and Then: A Deeper Look at Key Historical Events in the Creation and Existence of the Modern State of Israel," and a series, "Israel through Film." The Religious School hosted Israeli teen educators/ goodwill ambassadors who shared their life experiences with our youth. The Shabbat Morning Music Service of classical Jewish music presented by the cantors, professional choir and congregational singers included a selection of music by Israeli composers and Israeli folk tunes.

INTENSIFYING ISRAEL CONNECTIONS: COMMUNITY TRAVEL TO ISRAEL

By traveling to Israel, we have sought to develop personal kinship with the State, its citizens and its culture; to reconfirm its place as the Jewish homeland; and to understand how what happens in Israel today affects American Jews and vice-versa. We hoped that every individual would ask new questions and develop a deeper relationship with Israel. We wanted families to share a meaningful and fun vacation, full of memories of a wonderful time spent in a magical place. As a community, we aspired that these trips would reassert the strong and enduring commitment of Park Avenue Synagogue to Israel and its people. At the same time, we desired that the time spent together would broaden community ties.

In 2004, 123 congregants, clergy and staff traveled as a community to Israel, and in 2007, 243 made the memorable trip. Throughout both trips, congregants of all ages absorbed indelible memories, whether it was one of our youngest children running through the streets of Old Jerusalem on a scavenger hunt, cheering in the stands at a professional basketball game in Tel Aviv, or riding in jeeps on the Burma Road to triumphantly enter Jerusalem. Meeting with Ethiopian immigrants at

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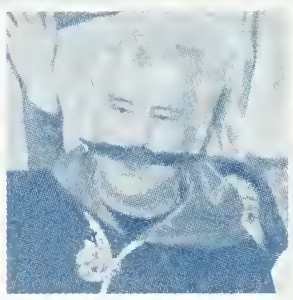

Purim Spiel Returns to P.A.S. After a 20-year Hiatus

By Marlene Muskin

On the evening of March 20th at 8:00 pm a new generation of P.A.S. congregants was introduced to the traditional joys of the Purim Spiel. A packed house witnessed and enjoyed "The Megillah According to Broadway," from a script by Norman Roth adapted for our congregation by Ethan Gologor, Joann Rosoff and Steven Stone with script consultant Merwin Goldsmith. For 30 minutes the audience was transfixed as their fellow congregants sang and danced their way through the story of Queen Esther's rescue of her people from the gallows of evil Haman (BOO!).

Those fortunate enough to be there heard and saw a wildly nuanced performance from all the players. We can thank the Directors, Geri Besca and Lisa Rizzi, and the Producer, Cantor Nancy Abramson, for teasing out of the performers that tilt of the head, the turn of a shoulder and sidelong glance, that further enhanced the production. The wonderful musical accompaniment by Lou Bernstein (on piano) and Gil Smuskowitz (on bass) elevated the performance even further. Harriet Feiwel's clean, lean choreography was the heart of every musical number. Ellen Alt and the Hebrew School created the scenery helping transport us back in time. The Costume Director, Marlene Muskin, and her crew, Carol Goldstein, Marian Levitt, Terry Solomon and Robin Taubin moved the action along with their costume changes. The lighting by Dan Rios shone brightly.

The cast, in order of appearance, featured Ethan Gologor as Rabbi #1. The audience had a good time savoring his pitch-perfect performance. Michael Brenner played a Borscht Belt Achashverosh (think Jackie Mason), resplendent in gold, black and red. Geri Besca, as well as being one of the Directors, was our glittering heroine, Queen Esther, a golden girl with a golden voice. Haman (BOO!) was played to campy perfection by Charles Charrow. He left the audience thinking – "how could such an evil man have such a divine voice?" Ray Treiger as Mordechai, dressed in a Zoot suit, was a pillar of decency and quiet strength. Sandy Mayerson's comic turn as a deliciously vampy Vashti left the crowd roaring. What a tremendous performance only a few short days after daughter Katy's Bat Mitzvah! Bob Becker portrayed the Waiter with great slapstick timing and Cantor #1 with dignity and grace. Maxine Dovere was convincing as she stroked her Wise Man's beard and made a wonderful Lady/Beauty Contestant. Lisa Rizzi, besides being one of the Directors, was a singing and dancing Lady/Beauty Contestant. Marcia Stone lent her sweet, pure soprano voice to Cantor #2, as well doing some pretty good shimmying, shaking and singing as a Lady/Beauty Contestant. Lynn Schaul, with clever juxtaposition, was light on her feet and sunny as a Lady/Beauty Contestant and then serious and somber as Rabbi # 2. In addition to being the Choreographer, Harriet Feiwel, was cool, calm and very lovely as a Lady/Beauty Contestant. Four year old Gabe Schaul was our young Jewdi. With his little blow up sword held high he offered the coup de grace to Haman (BOO!) once and for all. Well, at least until next year!

Celebrating a *Simcha*? A birthday, anniversary, engagement, wedding, new grandchild, or anything else for which you are grateful? Sponsor a breakfast *Kiddush* any weekday after our Morning Minyan.

Contact *Lynn Schneider at the synagogue for more information, 212-369-2600.*

Zionism, Israel and Park Avenue Synagogue...Post 1948

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governmental officials come to the synagogue to talk with us, frequently at the time of Yom HaAtzma-ut, the anniversary of the State of Israel.

Learning the common language of the Jewish people links Jews worldwide. At P.A.S., Hebrew study is a fixture of the Religious School and the Adult Education program.

Israeli arts have been a constant source of connection through numerous P.A.S. programs. The cantors and the arms have enthusiastically followed the flourishing Israeli music and arts scenes. For approximately 20 years, P.A.S. sponsored an annual Art Show featuring both Israeli and American Jewish artists. Israeli crafts were featured in arms' programs and in the gift shop.

The intellectual flourishing of the State of Israel has continued unabated since its establishment. From religion to politics, film, medicine, and archaeological research, much knowledge and inspiration have flown from Israel to the Diaspora; and P.A.S. Adult Education course offerings have often been about historical or biblical themes. Topical educational programs and talks about Israel have continued non-stop since the birth of the State.

EARLY CONGREGATIONAL TRAVEL TO ISRAEL

In 1951, Rabbi Simon Noveck planned an Israel night. He called for all members of the congregation who had been to Israel (one senses there were not many) to come and exchange impressions and opinions. Traveling to Israel during the 1950s and 1960s was an experience worth reporting in the Bulletin. However, though the development of group tours made visits more commonplace, Sisterhood's attempt to assemble a group for a United Synagogue tour was unsuccessful. By the 1970s, the Bulletin reported that some congregants had children living in Israel, and the synagogue wanted to establish a list for the purposes of communicating with them.

By the 1980s, more congregants were visiting Israel, and new efforts were made for a congregational visit. For the 100th Anniversary celebration in 1982 a congregational trip was planned, but it did not materialize. Instead, we honored our commitment with tree plantings in the neighborhood and in Israel.

In the past quarter century, youth trips attained greater popularity. Peter Geffen, a former High School head, arranged several. In recent years, many choices of good teen programs were available, so there was less need for developing a P.A.S. trip. Rabbi David Lincoln has accompanied several small congregational groups to Israel and additional destinations, and Cantors David Lefkowitz and Nancy Abramson and congregants participated in a Cantors Assembly trip.

Israel tourism suffers every time conflict with Arab neighbors intensifies, and the U.S. Gulf wars have also negatively impacted tourism.

Park Avenue Synagogue and Israel Today

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a settlement house and attending the moving services at the Kotel and at Shira Hadasha created a feeling of *kehillah,* of connection with all the other members of our community," said participant Brian Lustbader. Dennis Karr remembered "traveling through the lush farmland of the Negev desert to the military base, and the generosity, kindness, and sheer ability of the soldiers who were about to enter Gaza at any time."

Special highlights of both trips were the Bar/Bat Mitzvah services. In 2004, ten P.A.S. children joined with four special-needs Israeli children to celebrate their B'nai Mitzvah at a Conservative synagogue. A P.A.S. group member, Henry Glanternik, related that he was "especially moved when we all said the *Sh'ma* in sign language. It reminded me that there are all kinds of Jews, but we are still one." In 2007, 25 P.A.S. children and hundreds of family and friends enjoyed the beautiful service and view over the Old City from the Hebrew University Campus.

On our 2004 trip another moving moment came at a memorial service at Yad Vashem. Listening to Cantor David Lefkowitz chant *El Maleh Rachamim* and "watching our children and young adults place flowers on the ashes of the death camps at Yad Vashem was symbolic of our victorious survival as a people," said P.A.S. President Menachem Z. Rosensaft. In 2007, we completed our 125th Anniversary Torah at the new synagogue at Yad Vashem among multi-generational families, including Holocaust survivors and the committed generations of their offspring. P.A.S. Chairman Amy A. B. Bressman summarized our trips by saying, "They exceeded our expectations in every way. We could see the beauty of Israel, better understand its challenges, and see the importance of our partnership in creating its history."

Upon returning from Israel, we determined that congregants of all ages would prolong consideration of our shared history and shared destiny. At Park Avenue Synagogue, we have continued to intensify financial support and programming connecting us to Israel: through holiday celebrations; emphasizing Hebrew education; programs and speakers on Jewish religious developments and the Conservative Masorti movement in Israel; through programs and speakers on Israeli politics, society, security, arts and sciences; and of course, educational components in the Religious School. P.A.S. wants to provide continuing avenues for involvement with the State of Israel; all it takes is our willingness to participate.

When one loves *tzedakah* and justice, the earth is filled with God's loving-kindness. —*Psalm 33:5*

Kol Nidre Appeal 2007/5768

Cantor & Mrs. David Lefkowitz

Bikur Cholim

Frances Stewart, *in memory of her beloved mother Ilse Hahn on what would have been her birthday on April 15th.*

High School Food Pantry

Robert & Deanna Adler.
Anonymous, *in honor of their anniversary.*
Richard Bass & Family, *in memory of John S. Greene's beloved mother.*
Barbara Delgado, *in honor of her father Morris Brownstein.*
Harriet & Herb Feiwel, *in memory of Stephanie Later's sister, Patricia Molla Corn.*
Elaine S. Gilde & Richard S. Green, *in honor of Marcia Eppler Colvin and Lynn Halbfinger, in appreciation for their splendid work as Event Chairs of the 125th Anniversary Gala.*
Herta & Ernest Gottschalk, *in honor of the wedding of Peter & Jennifer Bernstein.*
Selma & Beatrice Hollander, *in honor of Katy Mayerson becoming a Bat Mitzvah.*
Dr. Samuel & Anne Katz.
Jane & Stanley Kreinik, *in memory of Blanche Agisim's sister, Ethel Schoenburger.*
Dorothy Lang, *in loving memory of her husband Joseph Lang.*
Susan & Isaac Lemor, *in honor of Dr. Arturo Constantiner.*
Susan & Lawrence Lerner, *in honor of Susan Heller's birhday.*
Susan & Lawrence Lerner, *in honor of Rabbi David & Susan Lincoln.*
Melaine Schneider, *in honor of the birth of Jack Adam Makowksy, grandson of Mark & Sarita Fraier.*

Library Fund

Harriet Abramson, *in memory of her beloved husband Edward Abramson.*
Selma & Beatrice Hollander, *in honor of Mark Fraier, with gratitude for the great honor of our Aliyah.*

Liturgical Music Fund

Babette Ballis, *in memory of her beloved father Walter Hoexter*
Elaine Cole, Eric Balis & Elliot Balis, *in memory of Grandpa Walter.*
Betsy & Malcolm Hall, *in honor and appreciation of the marvelous work of Marcia Stone and Laurie Harris on the recently issued anniversary commemorative book.*
Cantor David & Joan Lefkowitz, *in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Katy Mayerson.*
Cantor David & Joan Lefkowitz, *in memory of Eleanore Geringer.*

Albert & Rachel Murad Memorial Scholarship Fund

Doris & Henry Murad, *in memory of Jamil Mooallem.*

Nursery School Fund

Selma and Beatrice Hollander, *in honor of Sarita & Mark Fraier on the birth of their grandson, Jack Adam Makowsky.*

Prayer Book Fund

Milton & Patricia Fuchs, *in memory of Florence Prashker, Jack Prashker, Leonard Prashker and Lillian Fuchs.*
Selma & Beatrice Hollander, *in memory of Eleanore Geringer.*

James P. Robbins Fund

Barbara Grad Robbins, *in memory of her beloved father, David Grad.*

Welfare Fund

Milton Fuchs, *in memory of his beloved mother and father Lillian and Samuel Fuchs.*
Patricia Fuchs, *in memory of her beloved grandfather Jacob Bayer.*
Bernice Meltzer.

Synagogue Offerings

Robert & Deanna Adler.
Harvey & Melody Alstodt, *in honor of their anniversary.*
David Berman, *in memory of his beloved mother and father, Ethel & Edward Berman.*
Ernestine Bernstein, *in memory of her beloved father Alexander Wolf.*
Vivian Bernstein, *in memory of her beloved grandmother Marie Holub.*
Vivian Bernstein, *in honor of her birthday.*
Mindy Birnbaum, *in memory of her beloved father, Stanley Birnbaum.*
Wallace Chavkin, *in honor of his birthday.*
Sherry Cohen, *in memory of Ethel Schoenburger, sister of Blanche Agisim.*
Linda Daitz, *in memory of her beloved father William Rosenberg.*
Michael Du Boff, *in memory of his beloved father Rubin R. Du Boff.*
Irene Eisenberg, *in honor of her birthday.*
Helen Erlich, *in memory of her beloved husband Murry Erlich.*
Elizabeth Feiner, *in memory of her beloved mother Pearl Cooper.*
Gail Furman, *in memory of her beloved father Alvin Gorin.*
Ethan Gologor, *in memory of Masha Tumarkin.*
William Gorin, *in memory of his beloved father Alvin Gorin.*
Anita & Douglas Harris, *in honor of the birthday of Dr. Bernard Weiss.*
Andrew & Heather Heller, *in honor of their anniversary.*
Steven Hirth, *in memory of his beloved father, Emanuel Hirth.*
Shelley Holm, *in memory of her beloved father Murry Erlich.*
Arthur Kaplan, *in memory of my beloved friend Arthur Ratner, a friend for over 60 years.*
Dr. Henry Katz, *in memory of his beloved father Samuel Katz.*
Linda Goldman-Katz, *in memory of her beloved father Marcus Goldman.*
Rosamond V.P. Kaufman, *in memory of her beloved mother-in-law Babe Kaufman.*
Mark Kirsch, *in memory of his beloved grandmother Eva Kirsch.*
Tamara Kornstein, *in memory of her beloved grandmother Ellie Prezioso.*
Cantor & Mrs. David Lefkowitz, *in memory of Stanley Gluck.*
Cantor & Mrs. David Lefkowitz, *in honor of Vivian & Daniel Bernstein on the marriage of their son Peter to Jennifer.*
Joan Lefkowitz, *in memory of her beloved father Irving Mintzer.*
Elaine & Stan Lemeshow and Karyn & Joe Gold, *in honor of the Ufruf of Adina Lemeshow & Jay Katsir on March 22, 2008.*
Leona Leon, *in loving memory of her father David Benjamin.*
Edward & Lucy Lipiner, *in honor of their anniversary.*
Brigitte & Joseph Lonner, *in honor of their birthdays.*
Janet Moss, *in memory of Clara Spear, a true "woman of valor."*
Rachel & John Philipp, *in honor of their birthdays.*
Ruth Pordy, *in honor of her birthday.*
Ruth Pordy, *in memory of her beloved father Samuel Gansberg.*
Madeleine Redlich, *in honor of her birthday.*
Barbara & Jim Robbins, *in memory of Edna Burack's mother, Ruth Goodman Brussel.*
Estelle Roth & Family, *in memory of Ethel Schoenburger, beloved sister of Blanche Agisim.*
Ruth Rothseid, *in memory of her beloved father Dr. Albert Rothseid.*
Sherry Rutman, *in memory of her beloved mother Leah Berg.*
Bert & Bette Schein & Family, *in memory of Keith Arluck.*
Richard & Harriet Schenk, *in honor of Ella Wallack's birthday.*
Florence Seligman, *in memory of her beloved father-in-law Nathan Seligman.*
Esther Silver, *in memory of her beloved mother Pauline Altfeld.*
Sheldon & Doris Siskin, *in honor of their anniversary.*
Rosalyn Tauber, *in memory of Shlomo Tauber, grandfather of Susan B. Silverman, Judy B. Poss and David B. Brous, Jr.*
Nancy Treiger, *in memory of her beloved mother Ann Davis.*
Eve Urvater, *in memory of her beloved mother Rona B. Feuer.*
Selma Weintraub, *in memory of the sister of Blanche Agisim, Ethel Schoenburger.*
Dr. Janet Weisberg, *in honor of her birthday.*
Elaine Weitzman, *in honor of her birthday.*
Penny S. Zorn, *in memory of her beloved mother Fay D. Shapiro.*

Tikkun Olam Committee for Community Outreach

Ruthie Ezra *in honor of her birthday and also in gratitude for recovery from bike accident.*

MAY 4

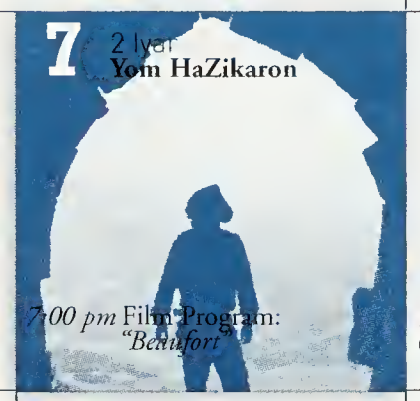
EXCEPT AS NOTED

Daily Minyanim *Monday-Friday at 7:15 am; Sundays and Legal Holidays at 9:00 am.*

Mincha *Sunday-Thursday at 5:45 pm.*

Hashkama *Saturdays and Yom Tov at 7:30 am.*

Information is subject to change.
Confirm at ***www.pasyn.org*** *or with the office.*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 26 Nisan **Yom HaShoah** *11:00 am* Lunch 'n' Learn *4:40 pm* CS: Yom HaShoah *8:00 pm* Before the Stork	**2** 27 Nisan Light Candles: 7:35 pm **Registration Deadline for Hebrew School** *5:15 pm* Young Couples' Club Shabbat Dinner $ ✆ *6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service: Welcoming the Sabbath* Tiny Treasures	**3** 28 Nisan *Parashat Kedoshim* No School *9:15 am* Sanctuary Service *6:00 pm Mincha*
4 29 Nisan *9:00 am* Parade Banner Workshop *12:00 pm* **Block Party** *4:00 pm* Musicale *Rikudiyah Dance Festival* *Kadima and Ruach Events*	**5** 30 Nisan *Rosh Chodesh Iyar* *6:30 pm* Adult Hebrew Level II, Conv. $ ✆ *7:30 pm* Modern Hebrew $ ✆	**6** 1 Iyar *Rosh Chodesh Iyar* *11:00 am* Tuesday Topics *12:00 pm* Sisterhood Exec Board *6:30 pm* Siddur Hebrew Level I $ ✆ *7:30 pm* Moonbeams	**7** 2 Iyar **Yom HaZikaron**  *7:00 pm* Film Program: *"Beaufort"*	**8** 3 Iyar **Yom HaAtzmaut** *11:00 am* Lunch 'n' Learn *6:30 pm* ECC Benefit	**9** 4 Iyar Light Candles: 7:43 pm *6:15 pm* Friday Evening Service	**10** 5 Iyar *Parashat Emor* *9:15 am* Sanctuary Service *10:15 am* Jr. Congregation *11:15 am Nitzanim Service* *6:00 pm Mincha*
11 6 Iyar	**12** 7 Iyar Tikkun Olam Collection Day *6:30 pm* Adult Hebrew Level II, Conv. $ ✆ *7:30 pm* Modern Hebrew $ ✆ (last class)	**13** 8 Iyar Tikkun Olam Collection Day *11:00 am* Tuesday Topics *1:00 pm* Sisterhood Yiddish Club *6:15 pm* Men's Club Board *6:30 pm Tikkun Olam* *6:30 pm* Siddur Hebrew Level I $ ✆	**14** 9 Iyar Tikkun Olam Collection Day *7:30 pm* Healing Service	**15** 10 Iyar *11:00 am* Lunch 'n' Learn *6:00 pm* **126th Annual Meeting & Supper**	**16** 11 Iyar Light Candles: 7:49 pm *6:15 pm* Friday Evening Service **Children's Birthday Service**	**17** 12 Iyar *Parashat Behar* *9:15 am* Sanctuary Service *9:30 am Havurah Service* *10:15 am* Jr. Congregation *11:15 am Nitzanim Service* *11:15 am* Tot Shabbat *6:00 pm Mincha*
18 13 Iyar CS *Zayin* Museum Visit *Rosh Chodesh: It's a Girl Thing!* HS Community Service	**19** 14 Iyar *6:30 pm* Adult Hebrew Level II, Conv. $ ✆	**20** 15 Iyar *11:00 am* Tuesday Topics *6:30 pm* Siddur Hebrew Level I $ ✆	**21** 16 Iyar *8:00 pm* Hearing Men's Voices ✆	**22** 17 Iyar *11:00 am* Lunch 'n' Learn *5:00 pm Vav* Students/Parents B'nai Mitzvah Program	**23** 18 Iyar Light Candles: 7:56 pm ***Lag B'Omer*** *6:15 pm* Friday Evening Service	**24** 19 Iyar *Parashat Bechukosai* No School *9:15 am* Sanctuary Service *6:00 pm Mincha*
25 20 Iyar	**26** 21 Iyar **Memorial Day** Offices Closed No School *9:00 am* Morning Minyan	**27** 22 Iyar *11:00 am* TuesdayTopics *6:30 pm* Siddur Hebrew Level I $ ✆	**28** 23 Iyar *5:00 pm* CS Early Dismissal *5:30 pm* Lag B'omer Program & Picnic in Central Park	**29** 24 Iyar Last Day of CS and Toddler Program *11:00 am* Lunch 'n' Learn	**30** 25 Iyar Light Candles: 8:02 pm Last Day Toddler Program *6:00 pm* CS *Tekes Siyyum* Moving Up Ceremony *Kabbalat Shabbat Service & Oneg Shabbat* *6:15 pm* Friday Evening Service	**31** 26 Iyar *Parashat Banidbar* *9:15 am* Sanctuary Service *10:15 am* Jr. Congregation *11:15 am Nitzanim Service* *6:00 pm Mincha*

50 East 87th Street, New York, NY 10128 | Synagogue Office 212-369-2600 | www.pasyn.org

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Park Avenue Synagogue
ק"ק אגודת ישרים
1882 to 2007-2008
תשס"ז-תשס"ח

David H. Lincoln, Senior Rabbi
Kenneth A. Stern, Rabbi
David Lefkowitz, Senior Cantor
Nancy Abramson, Cantor
Amy A.B. Bressman, Chairman of the Board
Menachem Z. Rosensaft, President
Beryl P. Chernov, Executive Director
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Carol Hendin, Director, Early Childhood Center
Sarah Gribetz, Director, Lifelong Learning
Rabbi Matthew A. Reimer, Director, Rabbi Judah Nadich High School and Youth Programs
Lisa Samick, Director, Camp Keshet
Patricia Rich, P.A.S. Bulletin Editor
Lawrence Conley/4W, Graphic Design
Plaza Jewish Community Chapel, Inc., Funeral Directors

A Look Ahead

Salute to Israel Parade | **Sunday, June 1**
Join with hundreds of thousands as we march up Fifth Avenue and show our support to Israel at its 60th Anniversary. It is important that our congregation comes out in full force. We will march behind our own banner, and all spectators will also get to enjoy the wonderful spectacle of a human ribbon of color and movement, accompanied by exciting music.

E-mail Lynley at llys@pasyn.org to reserve your spot and your t-shirt.

Tot Shabbat *last for the season* | **Saturday, June 7**

HONORING RABBI LINCOLN AND RABBI STERN
Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs Dinner
Tuesday, June 17 | 6:30-8:30 pm

P.A.S Is Just a *Klik* Away

Park Avenue Synagogue's website, **www.pasyn.org** has the latest news, events, and times for any synagogue-related activity. And it also has lots of information about classes, programs, events, people, organizations, and meetings.

SIGN UP FOR E-MAIL NOTIFICATIONS! COMMUNICATE WITH OUR CLERGY AND STAFF!